

CARPETGRASS

Axonopus

Carpetgrass is a slow-growing, coarsely textured, warm-season turfgrass native to the West Indies, which was introduced into the United States early in the 1800s. Carpetgrass is also called Louisianagrass and has become naturalized in the Southeastern states, especially on poorly drained soils. It prefers full sun to moderate shade and performs well in wet, shady, acidic soils where other grasses may not. Carpetgrass spreads by stolons and appears similar to St. Augustinegrass and centipedegrass except for its lighter green color and distinct wavy leaf margin. Like centipedegrass, carpetgrass grows best on acidic (pH 5 to 6) soils.

Carpetgrass is not recommended for a high-quality lawn; however, it can be used in wet, shady areas where ease of maintenance is more important than quality. It grows best when daytime temperatures are between 60 and 90°F. It does not tolerate cold, drought, salt, or wear. It is often sold as a blend with centipedegrass to serve as a nurse or cover crop.

Carpetgrass is most susceptible to large patch disease. Weed problems are rare because carpetgrass grows vigorously and covers well. Carpetgrass is sensitive to many herbicides, and most herbicides are not labeled for carpetgrass.

Establish Carpetgrass in Spring after last frost. Keep soil moist but not wet until seedlings are rooted and beginning to spread. After establishment, 8-10 weeks, water only as needed to prevent severe drought stress. Fertilize with 1# Nitrogen per 1000 sqft monthly during the growing season.

Planting Rates

2 pounds per 1,000 square feet (1 kg. per 93 sq. m.)

Plant 15 to 20 pounds of carpetgrass seed per acre.

SEE PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE FOR IN DEPTH INSTRUCTIONS



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